



MEDIA STATEMENT

MCMC URGES RESPONSIBLE NEWS REPORTING AND AVOID MANIPULATIVE CONTENT

CYBERJAYA

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In response to MalaysiaNow's news reporting pertaining to a specific speech delivered at the parliament and a senior journalist, A Kadir Jasin's posting on his Facebook, the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) emphasises the importance of accurately representing the context of speeches delivered at Parliament and not using the content to spread hatred or incite provocation. The MCMC has observed that some reporting has been weaponised to manipulate the content and fuel disrespectful and divisive narrative.

In order to prevent the commission or attempted commission of an offense under the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998 (CMA 1998), the MCMC calls for full cooperation from news outlets and individuals. MCMC views seriously the impact of manipulative reporting on society.

The MCMC advises media and news outlets to refer to the Content Code, which provides clear guidelines for media practitioners on the standards of content in line with the CMA 1998. By adhering to the Content Code, media practitioners can ensure responsible reporting and avoid crossing the legal boundaries of free speech.

The guidelines outlined in the Content Code promote a responsible approach to content provision and self-regulation procedures. This approach aims to foster creativity, innovation, and healthy growth in the industry. By following these guidelines, media outlets can contribute to a more informed and balanced public discourse, free from misleading information and manipulation.

MCMC's call for responsible reporting highlights the importance of accurate and contextual news coverage. It is essential that media practitioners exercise ethical judgment and refrain from weaponising news content to spread disinformation.

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